

State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee

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62nd Montana Legislature

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June 26, 2012

TO: Interested persons and stakeholders in public employee retirement systems

FROM: Sheri Scurr, Staff Researcher

RE: Proposals to revise public employee retirement systems

The State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee (SAVA) is required by state law under section 5-5-228(2), MCA, to review, prior to each legislative session, any proposed legislative changes to the public employee retirement systems. Section 5-5-228(3), MCA, gives SAVA the authority to set a deadline by which proposals must be submitted to the committee for review. The relevant MCA subsections read as follows:

5-5-228. State administration and veterans' affairs interim committee. (1)

- (2) The committee shall:
- (a) ...
- (d) solicit and review proposed statutory changes to any of the state's public employee retirement systems;
- (e) report to the legislature on each legislative proposal reviewed by the committee. The report must include but is not limited to:
 - (i) a summary of the fiscal implications of the proposal;
- (ii) an analysis of the effect that the proposal may have on other public employee retirement systems;
 - (iii) an analysis of the soundness of the proposal as a matter of public policy;
 - (iv) any amendments proposed by the committee; and
- (v) the committee's recommendation on whether the proposal should be enacted by the legislature.
- (f) attach the committee's report to any proposal that the committee considered and that is or has been introduced as a bill during a legislative session; and
 - (g) publish, for legislators' use, information on the state's public employee retirement systems.
 - (3) The committee may:
- (a) specify the date by which proposals affecting a retirement system must be submitted to the committee for the review contemplated under subsection (2)(d); and
- (b) request personnel from state agencies, including boards, political subdivisions, and the state public employee retirement systems, to furnish any information and render any assistance that the committee may request.

The committee will review pension proposals at the committee's August 9-10, 2012, meeting. If your organization is planning to forward (through a legislator) pension legislation for the 2013 session, please fill out the questionnaire entitled "Proposal for Retirement System Legislation" and <u>return it to me by August 1, 2012.</u> This questionnaire is posted on the SAVA web page at http://www.leg.mt.gov/sava.

If you have identified a holdover state senator or an unopposed legislative candidate who will formally request legislation to implement your proposal, please provide the senator's or candidate's name under question seven on the questionnaire. Legislative staff will assist that sponsor to initiate a formal bill draft request.

Please feel free to contact me at 406-444-3596 or sscurr@mt.gov if you have any questions.